

# SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 44/Number 7 September 2013



## Administration Message

Dear Fellow Residents:

I hope you all have enjoyed your summer and are well rested and refreshed. Now that the Labor Day weekend is over marking the unofficial end to summer, we still have time to enjoy the outdoors as we settle in to the new school year and get ready for fall. Did you know that there may be a way for you to save on your homeowner's insurance policy thanks to our Fire Department? Read on or see our Village website for more information. Also, over the summer your VBT has been busy with a number of items. We have approved a FY2013/14 Budget, passed an Appropriations Ordinance, commenced a study to gather data for a street maintenance plan, updated our Village Code regarding the hours of use for Sacajawea Park and Arrowhead Memorial Pointe. We also received a payment towards the balance of the impact fee from the Timber Trails Development Company. Here are the details.

### *Pleasantview Fire Protection District*

Recently, the Pleasantview Fire Protection District was given a Public Protection Classification rating of 2 on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being the highest possible rating. This is a rating system used by insurance companies, among other things, to determine rates for home owners' insurance. This high rating was obtained by our Fire Department with the cooperation of the communities it serves including the IHP Public Works/Water department. As a result of this high classification, IHP residents may be able to obtain a reduction in their homeowner's insurance rate. Ultimately, this is up to your insurance company. In order to do so, you would need to contact your home owner's insurance carrier and provide them with information concerning the Pleasantview Fire Protection District's new classification (previously rated a "3") and ask them if this qualifies you for a reduced premium on your insurance and perhaps a refund for some part of the past year.

At our July VBT meeting, Trustee Matt Walsh suggested that the Village post a letter on-line that residents could use to contact their insurance company about a lower rate and agreed to facilitate this. As a result, we have obtained a letter from Pleasantview Fire Chief Kevin Doyle (see our website home page for a link to this letter) for your use to download or copy and send to your insurance company's agent along with a request for a lower insurance premium.

Please remember that the Village (and the Fire Department) is not promising any lower rate. It is up to the insurance company you have.

Finally, we extend our thanks to Chief Doyle and the Pleasantview Fire Protection District Board for the Certificate of Commendation they presented to Superintendent Ed Santen and the IHP Water and Public Works Department for their assistance to the Fire Department in obtaining this higher classification.

### *Fiscal Year 2013/14 Budget – Appropriations Ordinance*

Following discussion at our June 13 and June 27 meetings, your Village Board approved a budget for the current fiscal year. As you may already know, the Village is not required to have a budget in order to operate. However, the precedent has been for the VBT to approve one every year to use as a guide for village operations. It is an estimate of revenues and expenses that allows the Administration to operate on a day-to-day basis. The Budget is also used as a basis for our Appropriations Ordinance which we are required by law to have.

In the FY2013/14 Budget approved by the VBT on June 27th and amended on July 11th to correct some formulaic errors in the spreadsheet, the planned village revenues are: Total Corporate Fund - \$2,422,365; Total Water and Sewer Fund - \$1,296,150 (includes the State grant for the Cochise water main project); and various special fund revenues (e.g. Motor Fuel Tax, SEASPAR, etc.) for a Total Village Revenues amount of \$4,039,806. On the Expenditure side, the Village plans for the following: Total Corporate Fund - \$2,432,686; Total Water and Sewer Fund - \$1,335,319; and various special fund expenses for a Total Village Expenditures of \$4,109,131. The Village Expenditures include the cost of the Cochise water main project and the above-numbers show a deficit of \$69,325. However, the Village received \$71,250 from the State for the Cochise water main last fiscal year which was not spent until this fiscal year.

Consequently, when that prior year grant money is taken into account, the current fiscal year Budget shows a surplus of \$1,925.

In order to achieve this balanced budget, the VBT agreed to postpone the purchase of a police squad car, repairs to the truck body of a Public Works vehicle, and well maintenance to the next fiscal year among other things. The amount budgeted for police overtime was reduced by \$10,000 compared to the initial estimated amount of \$120,000. Given that these items are estimates, the VBT will nevertheless do our best to live within these figures. It is worth noting again that there are

*continued on page 2*

**Message** continued from page 1

no dollars budgeted for any major street or other infrastructure repair project.

The Appropriations Ordinance passed by the VBT provides for the following: Corporate Purposes - \$4,700,792; Special Purposes - \$709,470; for a grand total for all items of \$5,410,262. In order to validly collect property taxes, the Village must adopt an appropriations ordinance which grants the Village the authority to spend money for various purposes up to the appropriated amount and a valid tax levy ordinance. The numbers from the budget are reflected in the appropriations ordinance with contingencies. Each line item amount in the budget is reflected in the appropriations ordinance with 25% added to the budgeted amounts plus an additional 5% at the bottom of each section. For this reason, the appropriated amounts exceed the budgeted amounts. It is important to note that this does not mean we can or will spend these amounts but that we have authorized ourselves to do so in the event it became necessary in a particular case. The Budget and Appropriations Ordinance can be viewed in their entirety on the Village website's Open Government page.

**Street Maintenance Plan**

In June, I explained my thoughts about a village-wide street repair program asked the Board to work on a plan to implement one Street Repair Program. Since then, our staff has been gathering the data regarding streets and water/sewer infrastructure with the help of our Village Engineer. We expect to have a report from Village Administrator Frank Alonzo and Trustees Bailey and Wittenberg and further discussion on this matter at our VBT meeting on September 12th.

**New Park Hours**

At our August meeting, the VBT passed an ordinance amending our Village Code to update the hours of use for Sacajawea Park and Arrowhead Memorial Pointe. The new hours reflect that these parks are open from sunrise until sunset. Trustee O'Laughlin suggested this change in order to enhance safety in the Village by giving the Police a right to question anyone congregating in these parks late in the evenings. These hours do not apply to Blackhawk Park where

the hours remain open from 5:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

**Timber Trails Development Company Impact Fee**

I am pleased to report that the Village has received payment of \$7,000 from the Timber Trails Development Company. This is the first payment toward the Developer's commitment to pay the outstanding \$200,000 balance from the original \$500,000 impact fee plus providing the funding for the sidewalk along Plainfield Road from I-294 to Wolf Road. As I mentioned at a previous VBT meeting, we have worked with the new developer at Timber Trails and have their commitment to pay the balance. I have extended our thanks to them for this check and conveyed our appreciation for their renewed confirmation to honor this agreement.

In closing, I want to remind everyone that the deadline for purchasing vehicle stickers at the regular rate has passed. Because every dollar in revenue is important to the well-being of our Village and the law requires them to do so, our Police are on alert for IHP vehicles with no or expired stickers. Finally, please see the information concerning our Heritage Center Library elsewhere in this newsletter.

Respectfully,  
Richard S. Andrews, mayor

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**Smoke Signals** **Volume 44, Number 7**  
(708) 246-3137 Circulation 2000

*Smoke Signals* is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

[www.indianheadpark-il.gov](http://www.indianheadpark-il.gov)

**VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK**  
201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525  
(708) 246-3080  
[www.indianheadpark-il.gov](http://www.indianheadpark-il.gov)

**Office Hours**  
Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and  
Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

**Mayor:** Richard S. Andrews

**Trustees:** Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnauer  
Tom Hinshaw Matthew P. Walsh II  
Brenda O'Laughlin Amy Jo Wittenberg

**Village Clerk:** Joseph V. Consolo

**Chief of Police/  
Administrator:** Frank Alonzo, Jr.

**Police Dept.** Non-Emergency 246-4534  
**Emergency** 9-1-1

**Fire Dept.** Non-Emergency 352-9229  
**Emergency** 9-1-1

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in Smoke Signals are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

## Scheduled Meeting Dates

**Village Board of Trustees: 7:30 p.m.:**  
Thursday, September 12, 2013

**Planning and Zoning Commission: 7:30 p.m.:**  
No meeting scheduled at this time.

**Fire and Police Commission: 7:00 p.m.**  
No meeting scheduled at this time.

**E-911 Board: 6:30 p.m.**  
No meeting scheduled at this time.

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at 201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

## TRADING POST

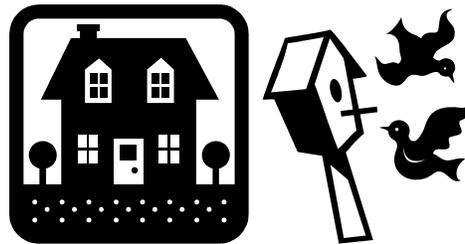
- Alterations . . . Experienced with silks, woolens, ultrasuede, leathers, hems, zippers, etc. Heirloom christening gowns designed from mother's wedding gown. Call Jean at (708) 246-6635.
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### INVITE A BIRD TO THE BIRD HOUSE!

*The Heritage Library, formerly the Bird Family Residence, is seeking your personal input to add beauty to the landscape with a fun project. Could your family create a bird house to hang from a tree on the grounds? You can even put your name on it! If you'd like to participate, just drop off your house on any Sat. or Sun. between 10:30 and 2:00 at the library (and check out the books too!), or call to have it picked up. We look forward to giving YOUR library YOUR personal touch.*

**Contact Susan Kiley for information: [skiley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skiley@sbcglobal.net) or 708-606-2197**



- HOURS:** Saturdays, 10-3, Sundays, 12-3
- FEES:** None!!!
- TIME LIMITS:** None!!!
- BOOK SELECTION:** Huge!!! (Including children's books)
- BOOK DONATIONS:** Always welcome during open hours.
- DOCENTS:** Wonderful people who staff the library.  
Have you got 2 hours a month to volunteer?  
You can read, pay your bills, or even do homework!
- SALARY:** Priceless!!!

We are totally dependent on your generous donations of dollars, time, books, and plants for our landscape.

Please come back again with your family to enjoy this little gem within our Village. Your suggestions are always welcome! Village Hall: (708) 246-5200 Jane Kuhn (708-246-0293) Susan Kiley (708) 246-2328



## TEEPEE TOPICS

Welcome home Petty Officer James Wydra who was serving in the U.S. Navy.

Academic achievements: Over two hundred students from Lyons Township High School were named Advanced Placement Scholars in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level placement or both for their success on the exams. AP exams are graded on a 1-5 scale (5 being the highest). Most of the nation's colleges and universities award credit and/or placement for grades of 3 or higher, and more than 1,300 institutions award one year of credit to students with a sufficient number of qualifying grades. Congratulations to the following students from Indian Head Park on their achievements: Christopher Sekula (AP Scholar with Honors); Adam Conrath, Jaime Duncan, John Harlow, Justine Hinshaw and Jacob Wittenberg (AP Scholars with Distinction) and Jacob Wittenberg (National AP Scholar).

Congratulations to resident Gloria Hearn. She brought home the trophy this July for winning the diaper dash competition on the Disney Fantasy. Gloria was cruising with extended family this July and was one of the competitors in the Jack-Jack Diaper Dash. She won her qualifying race hands down

and smoked her opponents during the championship race. Her parents are happy with the victory. Her grandpa and especially her "Ama", who coached her, are extremely proud of her first trophy.

Our condolences to Raymond and Anna Waters on the loss of their daughter Andrea. Also our sympathies are extended to the Strazzante family on the lost of Jack Daidone. Jack was the father of Dale Strazzante who works in the Administration Offices.

### Advertisement

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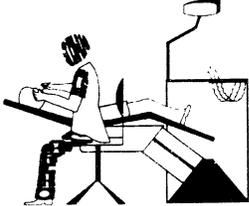
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